

WritePlacer Placement Test

What is it?

WritePlacer is a computer-based essay test that assesses a student's writing skills to help determine if they are ready for college-level coursework. WritePlacer is the essay portion of the Accuplacer, a computer-based test that also includes multiple-choice tests.

What does it measure?

WritePlacer evaluates a student's ability to:

- Express, organize, and support their ideas
- Present information in a unified and coherent manner
- Develop and support their ideas
- Demonstrate control of vocabulary, voice, and structure
- Express ideas using Standard Written English
- Communicate a point of view & demonstrate reasoned relationships among ideas

How does it work?

Students are given a prompt and asked to write an essay of 300 to 600 words. The prompt consists of a short passage and an assignment question that requires the student to focus on the issue addressed in the passage. Students are not provided with spelling or grammar checking software, but the test does provide a word count.

How is it used?

Colleges use WritePlacer scores to determine if a student is ready for college-level coursework or would benefit from developmental instruction. You can find sample essays for WritePlacer on the [Accuplacer website](#).

How is it scored?

WritePlacer scores range from 0 to 8. The essay is scored holistically based on the six characteristics of writing listed above. The WritePlacer (electronic essay) placement test is scored on a scale of 1 to 8.

Below is the placement chart that many institutions use for WritePlacer:

| WritePlacer Score (scale of 1 – 8) | Placement |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Score of 1 - 3 | Dev Ed Course required |
| Score of 4 | First Level English College Course with co-requisite support |
| Score of 5 – 6 | First Level English College Course |
| Score of 7 – 8 | Second Level English College Course |